

Message Text

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12
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ABF-01 FBO-02 /014 W
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P R 190503Z JUL 76
FM AMCONSUL DHAHRAN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4875
INFO AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE DHAHRAN 0916

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: AFIN, ABLD, SA, SSR
SUBJECT: USE OF EXCESS RUPEES ON USG PROJECTS IN SAUDI ARABIA

REF: (A) STATE 175984 (NOTAL), (B) ISLAMABAD 6853, (C) DHAHRAN 0825,
(D) NEW DELHI 9592

1. NEA/EX UNDERSTANDING CORRECT. OUR PROPOSAL IS FOR PAYMENT
OF RUPEES IN PAKISTAN TO PAKISTANI CONTRACTOR. VAS MENTIONED IN
PARA 2, REF C, WE BELIEVE CONTRACTOR WILL NEED SUBSTANTIAL
AMOOANTS OF RUPEES IN PAKISTAN FOR PERSONNEL RECRUITMENT AND
OTHER MOBILIZATION COSTS CONNECTED WITH THE LARGE DHAHRAN
AIRPORT CONTRACT.

2. WOULD APPRECIATE DEPARTMENT'S APPROVAL OF CONGEN'S PRE-
LIMINARY APPROACH TO CONTRACTOR IN EFFORT OBTAIN HIS AGREEMENT
IN PRINCIPLE TO CARRY OUT THE WORK UNDER CORPS OF ENGINEERS (COE)
SUPERVISION AND FOR PAYMENT IN RUPEES IN PAKISTAN. COE AREA
ENGINEER SUPPORTS OUR PROPOSAL, WILL BE OVERSEEING THE PAKISTANI
CONTACTOR'S WORK ON THE AIRPORT CONTRACT, AND HAS AGREED TO ASSIST
CONSULATE GENERAL IN REACHING AGREEMENT WITH THE CONTRACTOR AS
WELL AS IN SUPERVISING CONSTRUCTION WORK. WE REALIZE CONTRACTOR
WILL PROBABLY ASK FOR AT LEAST PART PAYMENT IN US DOLLARS, BUT
BELIEVE THERE IS GOOD POSSIBILITY OF HIS ACCEPTING ALL OR MOST
OF THE PAYMENT IN RUPEES FOR ACTUAL CONSTRUCTION WORK IN ORDER
DEVELOP GOOD RELATIONSHIP WITH COE AND AMERICAN BUSINESS AND
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OFFICIAL COMMUNITY HERE. MOREOVER, OUR WORK WOULD BE COLLECTION
OF RELATIVELY SMALL JOBS HE COULD EASILY DO AS FIRST SMALL GROUPS
OF CONSTRUCTION PEOPLE AND EQUIPMENT ARE ASSEMBLED. FOR THAT
REASON, BELIEVE EARLY APPROACH IS ESSENTIAL SO CONTRACTOR CAN

BEGIN PLANNING OUR SMALL PROJECT DURING HIS INITIAL MOBILIZATION PERIOD AND BEFORE AIRPORT PROJECT ABSORBS ALL HIS RESOURCES.

3. WE WERE NOT AWARE OF 75/25 PROVISION OF US-INDIAN RUPEE AGREEMENT, SO WE DO NOT PLAN TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF EMBASSY NEW DELHI'S HELPFUL OFFER OF ASSISTANCE UNTIL WE LEARN MORE ABOUT THIS TYPE ARRANGEMENT AND/OR RECEIVE DEPARTMENT'S ADVICE RE PROCEDURE. WE ARE PREPARING AND WILL PROVIDE DEPARTMENT AN ESTIMATE OF THE FILTRATION EQUIPMENT AND OTHER CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS WHICH THE CONTRACTOR MAY UNDERSTANDABLY NOT BE WILLING TO SUPPLY FOR RUPEES.

BUSHNELL

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